

July 11, 1975 Friday

Dear Vickie and Jim,

It is cloudy this morning and a loud thunder storm started in early this morning. It sounded like we were back in Minneapolis. The summer weather is very nice but I like the cooler rainy days the best. We are glad we have the downstairs to spend the evenings in when the afternoons are hot.

Our letters must have crossed in the mail as yours came yesterday also and I knew you had received mine because Ruthie called me to tell me she had talked to you. It was so nice of you to call. Jeannie and Art and the children arrived home late in the afternoon and Carmen is running around and is feeling fine. She was unconscious when she landed and Art thought she was dead so they went through a terrible experience. She landed on her knees and then her head went down in gravel. The doctor in Bend must be really wonderful to be able to fix her up like he did.

I usually get the baby on Fridays but we are going to Donnelly's for dinner and bridge tonight so Mary will bring the baby over Saturday. I almost turned down the invitation to Donnelly's because I would rather have the baby and lots of times I get to keep her through Sunday but I was sure dad wouldn't appreciate my intentions. We have the baby during the week usually and Thursday night, rather Wednesday night we took her out to dinner with us at a new Italian restaurant that just opened where the Barb used to be. It is very nice there and we had been there before and thought the food was delicious. A highchair was brought over for the baby. Dad and I were probably the only ones who thought she was so darling as altho she was very good she threw her food all over the carpeted floor. When she got tired of that she wanted to get down so we put her on the floor and she crawled all over and the waitresses had to be sure to walk around her but they smiled and didn't say anything. We did clean up the mess the baby made so the maitre 'd couldn't have been very upset.

Mary had signed up for golf lessons at a driving range near their apartment. It will be every Tuesday for one hour so I will go over to her place and take care of Diane. I am so glad Mary is going to start doing something. Mike is gone so much even in the evenings but she isn't complaining.

I am anxious to see the diamond earrings. I wonder if you ever had your ears pierced like you had thought of doing Vickie.

The hike you took sounded too tough for me but it also sounded just beautiful. It is terrible getting so thirsty. Next time you go on a long hike you will have to carry some beer along. Lillian and Cilly bought something in a store like Pay and Save that is called blue ice. It is like a sponge with a plastic covering and it first ^{is} put in the freezing compartment of the refrigerator and then put in the ice chest and it lasts for hours and hours. It can be re-used over and over. It sounded like a pretty good thing.

I think I told you that Gail Quit her job and has taken a volunteer job three days a week for a visitors bureau. She checks on restaurants to suggest where groups of people should go. She really enjoys it.

Dad said he didn't want to see Jaus, but when it comes to Bellevue I am going to make him go with me to see it or I will go by myself.

I hope you enjoyed the ballet.

Good-bye for now and I am going down to the post office and mail this so you should get it by Monday.

By the way--Pattie and Gary are still separated but Ruth and Jim are looking after Pattie and the children.

Love,

Mom.